

(c) the present status and aim of such airports;

(d) the present status of upgradation of Visakhapatnam and Rajahmundry airports; and

(e) the present status of new airport at Hyderabad?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (c) At present, new airports are being promoted by the concerned State Governments on Public Private Partnership (PPP) basis. 'In-principle' approval have been given for international standard airports at Mopa (Goa), Devanhali near Bangalore, Shamshabad near Hyderabad. Proposals have been received from the concerned State Governments for new Greenfield airports at Pakyong (Sikkim), Chiethu near Kohima (Nagaland), Itanagar (Arunachal Pradesh), Kannur (Kerala), and Chakken (Rajgurunagar) near Pune and Navi Mumbai near Panvel (Maharashtra).

There are well laid down procedures for development of greenfield airports and the above proposals have to conform to the prescribed conditions before being considered for final approval.

(d) At Visakhapatnam airport, associated works related to commissioning of new runway and new apron are near completion and the new runway is expected to be operationalised by March 2007. Construction of a new integrated passenger terminal building is going on as per schedule and is likely to be completed by December 2007.

For development of Rajahmundry airport, Memorandum of Understanding was signed between Airports Authority of India (AAI) and State Government on 14.02.2007.

(e) Works at new Hyderabad airport is going on as per schedule.

Replacement of Airbus by Boeing Aircrafts for Gulf Sector

741. SHRI K.E. ISMAIL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Air India is planning to introduce Boeing aircrafts replacing the wide bodied Airbus aircrafts for the services to Gulf countries from Thiruvananthapuram airports;

(b) if so, whether Government are aware that the cargo carrying capacity is less in Boeing aircrafts than in Airbus aircrafts and would affect export of vegetables and fruits to Gulf countries from Kerala; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to see that the cargo carrying capacity is not affected in this sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) No, Sir. There is no such plan for the present.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Modernisation of Civil Aviation Training Institute, Allahabad

742. SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal for modernization of the Civil Aviation Training Institute at Allahabad;

(b) if so, the amount earmarked for the purpose; and

(c) by when the modernization of the institute will be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Sum of Rs. 8.85 crores and 4.97 crores were spent for development and modernization work during the years 2005-06 and 2006-07 respectively. An amount of Rs. 6 crores has been earmarked for the development works for the year 2007-08.

(c) Modernisation and development is a continuous process depending upon emerging requirements.

Study of increase air traffic

†743. SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that due to increase in traffic, aircrafts have to wait for taking off as well as landing daily;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.